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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
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9 Joseph Grace,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 Jose De La Torre, et al.,

13 Defendants.
14

No. CV-25-01257-PHX-DWL

**ORDER REQUIRING RULE 26(f)
REPORT**

15 Pursuant to Rule 16(b)(1) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court will
16 issue a scheduling order after receiving the parties' Rule 26(f) report. After reviewing
17 the Rule 26(f) report, the Court will set a case management conference if meeting with
18 the parties appears necessary or helpful.

19 Accordingly,

20 **IT IS ORDERED as follows:**

21 The parties are directed to meet, confer, and develop a Rule 26(f) Joint Case
22 Management Report, which must be filed **within 4 weeks of the date of this order**. It is
23 the responsibility of Plaintiff(s) to initiate the Rule 26(f) meeting and preparation of the
24 Joint Case Management Report. Defendant(s) shall promptly and cooperatively
25 participate in the Rule 26(f) meeting and assist in preparation of the Joint Case
26 Management Report.

27 The Joint Case Management Report shall contain the following information in
28 separately numbered paragraphs.

1. The parties who attended the Rule 26(f) meeting and assisted in developing the Joint Case Management Report;
2. A list of all parties in the case, including any parent corporations or entities (for recusal purposes);
3. Any parties that have not been served and an explanation of why they have not been served, and any parties that have been served but have not answered or otherwise appeared;
4. A statement of whether any party expects to add additional parties to the case or otherwise to amend pleadings;
5. The names of any parties not subject to the Court's personal (or *in rem*) jurisdiction;
6. A description of the basis for the Court's subject matter jurisdiction (see the accompanying footnote), citing specific jurisdictional statutes;¹
7. A short statement of the nature of the case (no more than 3 pages), including a description of each claim, defense, and affirmative defense;
8. A listing of contemplated motions and a statement of the issues to be decided by those motions;
9. The prospects for settlement, including whether the case is suitable for reference to a United States Magistrate Judge for a settlement conference;

¹ If jurisdiction is based on diversity of citizenship, the report shall include a statement of the citizenship of every party and a description of the amount in dispute. See 28 U.S.C. §1332. The parties are reminded that (1) a corporation is a citizen of the state where it is incorporated and the state of its principal place of business and (2) partnerships and limited liability companies are citizens of every state in which one of their partners, owners, or members is a citizen. See 28 U.S.C. §1332(c); *Johnson v. Columbia Props. Anchorage, LP*, 437 F.3d 894, 899 (9th Cir. 2006). As to individual natural persons, an allegation about an individual's residence does not establish his or her citizenship for purposes of establishing diversity jurisdiction. *Steigleder v. McQuesten*, 198 U.S. 141, 143 (1905). "To be a citizen of a state, a natural person must first be a citizen of the United States. The natural person's state citizenship is then determined by her state of domicile, not her state of residence. A person's domicile is her *permanent* home, where she resides with the intention to remain or to which she intends to return." *Kanter v. Warner-Lambert Co.*, 265 F.3d 853, 858-59 (9th Cir. 2001) (emphasis added). The parties are further reminded that the use of fictitious parties ("John Doe" or "ABC Corporation") does not create diversity jurisdiction. *Fifty Assocs. v. Prudential Ins. Co. of Am.*, 446 F.2d 1187, 1191 (9th Cir. 1970).

- 1 10. The status of any related cases pending before this or other courts;
- 2 11. A discussion of any issues relating to preservation, disclosure, or discovery
- 3 of electronically stored information (“ESI”), including the parties’
- 4 preservation of ESI and the form or forms in which it will be produced;
- 5 12. A discussion of any issues relating to claims of privilege or work product;
- 6 13. A discussion of necessary discovery, which should take into account the
- 7 December 1, 2015 amendments to Rule 26(b)(1) and should include:
- 8 a. The extent, nature, and location of discovery anticipated by the
- 9 parties and why it is proportional to the needs of the case;
- 10 b. Suggested changes, if any, to the discovery limitations imposed by
- 11 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;
- 12 c. The number of hours permitted for each deposition. The parties also
- 13 should consider whether a total number of deposition hours should
- 14 be set in the case, such as 20 total hours for Plaintiffs and 20 total
- 15 hours for Defendants. Such overall time limits have the advantage
- 16 of providing an incentive for each side to be as efficient as possible
- 17 in each deposition, while also allowing parties to allocate time
- 18 among witnesses depending on the importance and complexity of
- 19 subjects to be covered with the witnesses.
- 20 14. Proposed deadlines for each of the following events. In proposing
- 21 deadlines, the parties should keep in mind that civil trials should occur
- 22 within 18 months of the filing of the complaint. 28 U.S.C. § 473(a)(2)(B).
- 23 The Case Management Order will specify trial scheduling up to the final
- 24 pretrial conference. Once the dates have been set in the Case Management
- 25 Order, the Court **will not** vary them without good cause, even if the parties
- 26 would otherwise stipulate to do so. The parties must propose the following:
- 27 a. A deadline for the completion of fact discovery, which will also be
- 28 the deadline for pretrial disclosures pursuant to Rule 26(a)(3). This

1 deadline is the date by which all fact discovery must be *completed*.
 2 Discovery requests must be served and depositions noticed
 3 sufficiently in advance of this date to ensure reasonable completion
 4 by the deadline, including time to resolve discovery disputes.
 5 Absent extraordinary circumstances, the Court will not entertain
 6 discovery disputes after this deadline;

7 b. Dates for full and complete expert disclosures and rebuttal expert
 8 disclosures, if any;

9 c. A deadline for completion of all expert depositions;

10 d. A date by which any Rule 35 physical or mental examination will be
 11 noticed if such an examination is required by any issues in the case;

12 e. A deadline for filing dispositive motions;

13 f. Case-specific deadlines and dates, such as the deadline to file a
 14 motion for class certification or a date on which the parties are
 15 available for a *Markman* (patent claim construction) hearing;

16 g. A date by which the parties shall have engaged in face-to-face good
 17 faith settlement talks;

18 h. Whether a jury trial has been requested and whether the request for a
 19 jury trial is contested (if the request is contested, set forth the
 20 reasons);

21 i. Any other matters that will aid the Court and parties in resolving this
 22 case in a just, speedy, and inexpensive manner as required by
 23 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 1.

24 15. A statement indicating whether the parties would prefer that the Court hold
 25 a case management conference before issuing a scheduling order—and, if
 26 so, an explanation of why this would be helpful.

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1 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that within 10 days, Plaintiff(s) must serve this
2 Order on any served Defendant that has not yet appeared. If any Defendant has not yet
3 been served under Rule 4, this order shall be added to the packet of materials to be
4 served.

5 Dated this 10th day of July, 2025.

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10 Dominic W. Lanza
11 United States District Judge
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